NOVCEL.003 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : **Hubbell, et al.**

Inter. App. No. : 10/743,687

Inter. Filed: December 19, 2003

For : Gels For Encapsulation of

Biological Materials

Examiner : Szekely, Peter A.

Group Art Unit : 1714

AMENDMENTS AND RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants file the following amendments and response to the Office action mailed March 7, 2006. Response being due on or before June 7, 2006, it is believed that a three month extension of time for response up to September 7, 2006 is required. Such an extension is hereby requested by the payment of extension fees.

Applicants respectfully request the entry of these amendments with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and consider the arguments as to the allowability of the claims.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

1